dealing with legal matters. Since it does not have a full-fledged legal set up, legal cases are entrusted to Retainers/Lawyers on case to case basis, taking into consideration the complexity/importance of the matter.

The legal fee paid to M/s. Bhasin & Company during 1998-99 was Rs. 1,56,17,641 excluding expenditure incurred for hotel accommodation, outstation allowance, car hire charges, etc.

(b) The total number of legal cases pending in various courts as on date are 843.

(c) Air India has advised their Stations to settle the consumer matters and passengers liability cases at Station level expeditiously without incurring high legal cost. In order to curtail the legal expenses, the panel of lawyers is being expanded.

Shortage of trollies at Airports

1990. SHRI SATISHCHANDRA SITARAM PRADHAN: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any shortage of luggage trolley at the airports in the country, especially at Mumbai;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) whether any rackets are functioning at the airports?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV): (a) and (b) There is no real shortage. At times, when there is a bunching of flights, then only shortage of trolleys is felt at the International Terminal at Mumbai Airport. This is compounded by the slow retrieval of the trolleys from the various areas of the airport.

(c) No such reports appear to have been received.

Shortage of Cabin Crew in IA

1991. SHRI VAYALAR RAVI: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian Airlines are facing cabin crew shortage;